

It has, as it conceives, a perfect right to regard as a menace to domestic peace and tranquillity the presence of ~~disaffected~~ within its borders of a warlike body of disaffected Indians, who have explicitly defied its jurisdiction and by their own act embraced the protection of another power. It may be that, in the interest of the security and well-being of both friendly Indians and white natives in the border-land, this Government may feel constrained to enforce submission upon those who after openly denying its laws and power and withdrawing themselves therefrom may return within its jurisdiction with or without apparent hostile intent. Should this Government decide to compel a submission of any of these Indians appearing on the southern side of the frontier line, it would ~~be~~ look upon a new recourse for ~~prompt~~ asylum across the line as calling prompt and efficient action by the British Government to repulse them, or to disarm, ~~the~~ disable and sequester them under a ~~xx~~ due responsibility for them as a component part of the territorial population of the British-American dominion.

The importance of a distinct understanding on this point is a ~~para~~ apparent. It is impossible to give countenance to any line of argument or assumption by which these savages may quit and resume allegiance and protection at will, by the mere circumstance of passing to the one side or the other of a conventional line traced through the wilderness. Before the ~~erxxx~~ era of their hostilities began, they were undoubtedly subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, as much as the ~~land~~ they then occupied and even though their migrations in search of food might at times carry them temporarily across the frontier, they were therefore none the less a part of the population of the US. and alien to British rule. But when hostilities began and the armed force of the United States was summoned to enforce their submission they sought and received asylum and protection across the border. The significance of their acts of submission to British protection as they themselves understood and intended them ~~and~~ admits of no doubt. as to the extent of their intention to assume the character of inhabitants of British Domain and their belief that they had done so; and no act of her majesties authorities in the North American possessions of Great Britain has looked toward denial of this widely asserted right to British protection and still less towards enforcement upon them of submission to the authority of the US. or of subjecting them to the treatment usually observed toward revolt of the aliens on the territory of a friendly power.

In this aspect of their relations the British Government, this Government conceives that it is bound now to regard the Indians as ~~SB~~ command as British Indians. Should they therefore make encouragements of a hostile character and should their movements threaten the property domain or the means of subsistence of the friendly tribes of US dwelling peaceably on their assigned reservations, or should active military operations on the part of the US against them become for any cause inevitable, I beg to call the attention of ~~KMH M~~ Government to the gravity of the situation which may thus be produced and to express a confidential hope that HM Government will recognize the importance of being prepared on the frontier with a sufficient force either to compel their surrender to our forces ~~as~~ as prisoners of war or to disarm and disable them from further hostilities and subject them to such constraints of surveillance and subjection as will preclude any further disturbance of the peace on the frontier.

I have the honor to be with the highest respect

SIR your obedient servant  
William M. Everts.